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## GIBALTAR.

*Quarantine regulations against Oporto and other Portuguese ports.*

## BOARD OF HEALTH NOTICE.

GIBALTAR, *August 26, 1899.*

At a meeting held on the 23 instant the board passed the following resolutions in extension of the resolution adopted on the 17th instant relative to vessels arriving from Portugal :

1. Vessels from Oporto, or from any port which may be declared by the board of health to be infected, or vessels having had plague on board, are to be refused admission.

2. Vessels from Portuguese ports, other than Oporto or any port declared infected, may be admitted to pratique after medical inspection and after completion of such quarantine as shall complete a period of ten days from date of departure from Portugal.

3. The port surgeon shall require from the medical officer of the ship, or if there be no medical officer, then from the captain, a certificate on oath as to the health on board during the voyage.

4. On completion of the quarantine imposed under rule 2, passengers may be allowed to land, after disinfection of baggage, and, if considered necessary, destruction of such baggage as may be held dangerous and likely to carry infection.

5. The crew are not to be allowed to land, even after the quarantine, unless it becomes urgently necessary for reasons of service.

6. The importation from Portugal, or the transshipment in the bay, of the articles enumerated in Chapter II, Title IV, of the Venice Plague Convention, 1897, as liable to carry infection, is strictly prohibited.

By order,

JOHN PORRAL,

*Acting Secretary to the Board of Health.*

GIBALTAR, *August 26, 1899.*

Le Reveil du Maroc of the 24th instant contains the following notice issued by the local sanitary authorities :

[Translation.]

TANGIER, *August 20, 1899.*

Certain alarming rumors concerning the public health in Morocco, circulated during the past few days, have been traced to an unfounded source. To put an end to such being prejudicial to commerce, I affirm that the public health throughout Morocco is good. That no information to the contrary has been received by the sanitary commission, and every precaution has been taken to meet any danger should such occur, and that the public will be informed accordingly.

COUNT HOHENWART,

*President Sanitary Council, Tangier.*

## ITALY.

*Weekly reports from Naples—Plague in Oporto.*NAPLES, ITALY, *August 23, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended August 23, 1899, bills of health were issued to the following ships: On August 19, to the steamship *Chateau Yquem*, of the Fabre Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 430 steerage and 2 cabin passengers. The steamship company was advised, only, to reject the following cases: Trachoma, 6; heart disease, 1.

There were also inspected 410 pieces of small and 157 pieces of large baggage.

On August 21, the steamship *John Cloverdale*, bound in water ballast for Philadelphia.

#### THE PLAGUE IN EUROPE.

After nearly one week of writing and telegraphing I was in position, on August 18, to cable you that the plague was officially admitted to exist at Oporto, Portugal. Up to and including August 19, there were reported 39 cases, with 13 deaths.

The United States consular agent at Oporto telegraphs that the plague has existed in that city since June 4. He also states that no passengers or cargo are being embarked for the United States.

In reference to your cable inquiry of even date (August 23), instructing me to investigate the plague here and at Palermo, Italy, I would say that after diligent search I have been unable to learn of any cases of plague in Naples, and the consulate at Palermo telegraphs that no cases exist there.

The local quarantine inform me that the same restrictions are placed upon the vessels from Oporto as those from Alexandria.

Respectfully, yours,

VICTOR G. HEISER,  
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

NAPLES, ITALY, *August 30, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended August 30, 1899, bills of health were issued to the following ships: On August 25, to the steamship *Ems* of the North German Lloyd Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 577 steerage and 58 cabin passengers. The steamship company was advised only to reject the following cases: Trachoma, 8; poor physique, 2. There were also inspected 759 pieces of small, and 225 pieces of large, baggage.

On August 26 the steamship *Bolivia* of the Anchor Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 365 steerage and 1 cabin passengers. The steamship company was advised only to reject the following cases: Trachoma, 2; erysipelas, 1. There were also inspected 190 pieces of small, and 52 pieces of large, baggage.

On August 27, to the steamship *Tartar Prince* of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 780 steerage and 20 cabin passengers. The steamship company was advised only to reject the following cases: Trachoma, 7; poor physique, 2; marasmus, 1. There were also inspected 930 pieces of small, and 227 pieces of large, baggage.

#### THE PLAGUE.

As to the rumor, which gained such wide circulation, that the plague existed at Palermo and here, there seems to be no truth, at least I am unable to find the cases. While investigating the truth of this report, I was fully convinced that in the event of the plague making its appearance here, that it will be difficult to prove the existence of the first cases at least.

The official number of plague cases at Oporto up to August 27, 1899, was 51 cases with 18 deaths.

I have the honor to inclose a report from the United States consular agent at Oporto, which states that only crude argols and port wine are being shipped to the United States. I infer that this must mean for the past few months only, because in the "Supplement to consular reports" it is stated that for the first quarter of 1899 skins and other merchandise have been shipped.

The plague is supposed to have been conveyed to Portugal by the rats which came in a cargo of rice from India.

In investigating the possibility of the plague being carried to this port by rats or merchandise, it was found that no rice for instance has been imported for nearly a year. The only imports from the plague infected ports of the East are skins, tea, seeds, cotton, and fancy wares, etc. Through information received from the Naples custom-house, it appears that no merchandise has been imported into Naples from Portugal for several months.

The vessels of two of the steamship lines that come from the East never touch a wharf here, the vessels of the remaining line which touch at Bombay, Calcutta, and Alexandria come alongside of the wharves here. The skins, as far as can be learned, are not disinfected, hence there is ample opportunity for infection to be conveyed either by rats or merchandise.

The vessels which touch Oporto are now subjected (at least so reported) to the same quarantine regulations as those coming from Alexandria.

Yesterday (August 29) at the request of the chargé d'affaires Mr. Iddings of the embassy at Rome, I had a conference with him in regard to the possibility of the plague making its appearance here in Naples. I was assured that the Service would have the assistance of the embassy in every way that lay in its power.

Respectfully, yours,

VICTOR G. HEISER,  
*Assistant Surgeon U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

[Inclosure.]

OPORTO, *August 18, 1899.*

SIR: This morning I received your favor of 12th instant, and also your telegram, and in answer I told you by wire—Since June 4, 39 cases, of which 13 fatal, no passengers, only cargo, embarked States.

Only a few days ago the government officially published the existence of the bubonic pest in Oporto, but the disease is of a mild character. The official statistics were published yesterday, as follows: Month of June, 16 cases, 6 deaths; month of July, 9 cases, 3 deaths; month of August, 14 cases, 4 deaths; total, 39 cases, 13 deaths.

Passengers never go from here to the United States. Of cargoes, has gone only port wine and crude argols.

Respectfully, yours,

W. STUVE,  
*United States Consular Agent.*

JAPAN.

*Quarantine of U. S. transport Grant at Yokohama on account of smallpox.*

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *August 14, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the U. S. transport *Grant* arrived here, from Manila, homeward bound, having on board in all, including crew, 1,639 souls. The men were granted shore leave on the 11th and 12th, that of the latter day extending to 8.45 p. m.